

As I read the book written by Winston Churchill called, the History of the English-Speaking Peoples, and I followed through on that history, as each tracks the English-speaking peoples around the globe and a part of its conquest and trade and colonization, but the English people never doubted and never lacked for faith in their civilization, in their culture, in their destiny, in their duty, and they promoted those values around the globe. As they did so, wherever they went, they left the English language, and wherever the Americans have gone, we have left the English language. If you go places today, and follow the English language wherever the English language is, you will find freedom, also.

Freedom's been a companion to the English language wherever it has gone around the globe. We should be very grateful we are descended from English common law that respects these values that we have. We have taken up that cause, and we have advanced it beyond this constitutional republic that we have that is rooted in this responsibility to be an informed citizen and active citizen and informed voter. Part of that responsibility is to get informed within this English language so you can understand this culture of America.

It is very difficult to understand the decisions that have been made if you are not able to access the common newspapers that are there, not able to get on the Internet and not able perhaps to carry on in conversations around your entire regular travels that you have. It is very difficult. It is not impossible, but if we allow the localities to make the decisions on whether or not there are going to be foreign language ballots and what languages they might be in.

You can bet that those localities will be looking at these like this county in California, this particular voting district in California with the 650 registered voters, and they would say, well, we printed the last five elections in 33 different ballots and three different languages and no one in all that time has asked for a foreign language ballot; you suppose maybe this time we ought to cut those numbers down and maybe eliminate it all together and just put English language ballots out there like we did in the past? I think the answer is, yes, let us stop that waste; let us stop being bigoted in saying everyone cannot understand a language because of their last name.

Then perhaps there will be others like Wisconsin in this other USA Today article that is here, Mr. Speaker, where they decide at the locality, we want to spend the money, we want to take that responsibility, we want to reach out to the Hmong- and the Spanish-speaking people and give them a ballot in a language that they can understand and be comfortable with.

Now, I would question why it would be that they could be American citizens in Wisconsin and not speak the

English language well enough to vote. I would question that, but that is a debate for Wisconsin, not a debate for this Congress.

So I submit, Mr. Speaker, that tomorrow we will make a decision. It will be a big decision. It will be a decision that will have long-term implications. Those long-term implications do not seem very big today as we talk about the simplicity of this argument. No one will be disenfranchised from being able to vote. I ask them to become informed voters, and that is a challenge out there to English speakers and to other speakers to become an informed voter.

But what is down the line is the message that we are sending to the newly arriving Americans that 10 or 20 or 60 or 90 million Americans that we might have within the next generation, that message that here is our language, learn this language. We will not be able to say that if the first thing we do is hand them a foreign language ballot. How do we ask them to assimilate if we are going to be enablers?

That is the question that is before us. That is the long-term implication of these questions that are before us, Mr. Speaker, and I am going to ask this body tomorrow to make a long-term, wise decision, save millions of taxpayer dollars, take the oppressive thumb off the back of localities, let them make the decisions themselves, let them reach out to people and take care of them in that fashion, save the money, provide better, more efficient services, do the right thing, preserve the tenth amendment, preserve the idea of Federalism and move this Nation to the next level of its destiny so that we can be a Nation that welcomes all, with equal opportunity for all and prejudice against none and prejudice towards none.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mrs. NORTUP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. TIAHRT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McDERMOTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LYNCH, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STUPAK, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. LOWEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. OBERSTAR, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGEL, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. KIND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FOXX) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, July 18.
Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NADLER, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1509. An act to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to add non-human primates to the definition of prohibited wildlife species; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2430. An act to amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Resources Restoration Study; to the Committee on Resources.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 13, 2006, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8486. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a copy of